

# Maurice Hinchey NEWS

## 26<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT, NEW YORK

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### HOUSE PASSES HINCHEY'S BILL TO HONOR VETERANS WHO SERVED IN KOREA

WASHINGTON - The House of Representatives on Tuesday night passed legislation introduced by U.S. Representative Maurice Hinchey (NY-26) that would award a Korea Defense Service Medal to members of the armed forces who served in Korea after the Korean War ended. Hinchey began working on this bill after a constituent from Ulster County, Robert Provost, pointed out the lack of recognition for these service people.

"These men and women served -and continue to serve- under extremely dangerous conditions," said Hinchey. "I am glad that my colleagues have joined me in getting them the recognition they deserve. Bestowing this honor on these brave people is long overdue."

More than 40,000 members of the United States armed forces have served on the Korean Peninsula each year since a cease-fire agreement ended the Korean War in July 1953. Since then, there have been more than 40,000 breaches of the cease-fire and 1,239 servicemen and women have died as a direct result their service in Korea.

Service medals are given to veterans who serve in particular regions during times of hostility or the threat of hostility. The Korea Defense Service Medal Act was introduced in May with 40 original cosponsors. It was subsequently incorporated into the Defense Authorization bill that passed the House Tuesday night by a vote of 398-17.